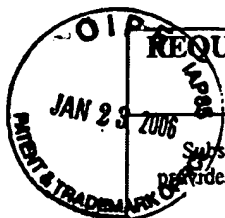


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**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION
(RCE) TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application No.: 10/070,128
Filing Date: February 27, 2002
First Named Inventor: Jacques Briand
Group Art Unit: 1639
Examiner: M. L. Shibuya
Attorney Docket No.: P51032 RCE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE WITH SUFFICIENT POSTAGE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO:
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, MAIL STOP: RCE, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

NAME: Andrea V. Lockenour

DATE: January 20, 2006

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on October 18, 2005.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply - _____ pages
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) _____ pages
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) _____ pages
- iv. ☐ Form PTO 1449 _____ pgs. & _____ References
- v. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (specifically itemized)
- vi. ☐ Other _____

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2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103 (c)
for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(f) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. FEES The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.117(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees or credit any overpayments, to
Deposit Account No. 19-2570.
- ☒ General Authorization to charge any and all fees under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17, including petitions for extensions
of time, relating to this application. (37 CFR 1.136(a)(3))
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e). \$790.00
- ii. ☐ () Month Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Additional Fees
- iv. ☒ **Total Fee to be charged to Deposit Account 19-2570** **\$790.00**

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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Signature Andrea V. Lockenour
NAME **Andrea V. Lockenour**

Registration No. 51,962